

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. -- 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A USB interface ~~in by~~ which an electrical/electronic product ~~is can~~ be connected to a general peripheral device ~~by transmitting and receiving a USB signal, said~~ USB interface comprising:

~~a USB connector to transmit and receive the for receiving a~~ USB signal ~~between the~~ USB interface and from the electrical/electronic product,

~~a single conversion circuit to convert for converting~~ the USB signal into an external interface signal that is transmitted ~~to and received from~~ the general peripheral device,

~~a selector connected between said USB connector and said conversion circuit and responsive to a status signal;~~

~~at least one external interface connector for transmitting and receiving a converted~~ USB signal between the external interface signal to the general peripheral device and the USB interface, and

~~at least one expansion connector for directly connecting the USB signal to at least one other expansion connector of a second USB interface without a cable connected therebetween, said second USB interface providing said status signal to said selector, said status signal indicating whether said at least one expansion connector is connected to said at least one other expansion connector; and in response thereto,~~

wherein said selector multiplexing is configured to transmit said USB signal between received from the conversion circuit USB connector and to the at least one other second USB interface and to not transmit the USB signal directly to the conversion circuit when said status signal indicates that said at least one expansion connector is connected to said at least one other expansion connector; and

wherein said selector is configured to transmit said USB signal received from the USB connector directly to the conversion circuit when said status signal indicates that said at least one expansion connector is not connected to said at least one other expansion connector.

said second USB interface comprising:

a second a USB connector to transmit and receive the USB signal between the second USB interface and the electrical/electronic product,

a second single conversion circuit to convert the USB signal into a second external interface signal that is transmitted to and received from a second general peripheral device,

a second selector connected between said second USB connector and said second conversion circuit and responsive to a second status signal;

a second external interface connector for transmitting and receiving a second converted USB signal between the second general peripheral device and the second USB interface, and

a second expansion connector for directly connecting the second USB signal to the at least one expansion connector of said first USB interface.

9. (Previously Presented) The USB interface according to claim 8, wherein the at least one external interface connector is a parallel interface.

10. (Previously Presented) The USB interface according to claim 8, wherein the at least one external interface connector is a PS/2 interface.

11. (Previously Presented) The USB interface according to claim 8, wherein the at least one external interface connector is a LAN interface.

12. (Currently Amended) A USB interface device in which an electrical/electronic product is can be connected to a general peripheral device and to a USB peripheral device by transmitting and receiving a USB signal, said USB interface device comprising:

1) at least one first USB interface and at least one second USB interface each being modular units inter-connectable to each other without a cable therebetween,

2) said first USB interface comprising:

a) a first USB connector to transmit and receive ~~the USB-signal signals~~ to/from the electrical/electronic product,

b)~~an~~ a first expansion connector for directly connecting to said second USB interface without a cable therebetween;

c) a first external interface connector for transmitting and receiving ~~an external~~ interface signals to/from the general peripheral device,

d) a single conversion circuit to convert ~~the USB-signal signals~~ into said external interface ~~signal signals~~ that ~~is are~~ transmitted to and received from the general peripheral device; and

e) a selector connected between said first USB connector and said conversion circuit ~~for multiplexing said USB signal between said conversion circuit and said first expansion connector and responsive to a status signal that indicates whether said first expansion connector is connected to said second USB interface, said selector being configured to transmit USB signals received from said first USB connector to said second USB interface through said first expansion connector and to not transmit USB signals received from said first USB connector to said conversion circuit directly when said status signal indicates that said first expansion connector is connected to said second USB interface, said selector being configured to transmit USB signals received from said USB connector to said conversion circuit directly when said status signal indicates that said first expansion connector is not connected to said second USB interface;~~

3) said second USB interface comprising:

a)~~a second USB connector to transmit and receive the USB signal to/from the~~ electrical/electronic product,

b)~~an~~ a second expansion connector for directly connecting to the first expansion connector of said first USB interface without a cable therebetween;

c)~~b~~ a second external interface connector for transmitting and receiving ~~said~~ USB ~~signal signals~~ to/from the USB peripheral device, and

d)~~c~~ a hub to transmit and receive ~~the USB-signal signals~~ to/from said second external interface connector and to/from said second expansion connector for feeding ~~said~~

USB-signal signals to said USB peripheral device and to the conversion circuit of said first USB interface respectively.

13. (Currently Amended) The USB interface device as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

1) a third USB interface, said third USB interface being a modular unit and connected to said first USB interface without a cable therebetween;

2) said first USB interface further including:

a) a second expansion connector for directly connecting to said third USB interface without a cable;

3) said third USB interface comprising:

a) a third USB connector to transmit and receive ~~the USB-signal signals~~ to/from the electrical/electronic product,

b) a third expansion connector for directly connecting to said second expansion connector of said first USB interface without a cable;

c) a third external interface connector for transmitting and receiving ~~another~~ external interface signals to/from another general peripheral device;

d) another single conversion circuit to convert ~~the USB-signal signals~~ into ~~said another external interface signal signals that is are transmitted to and received from the another general peripheral device; and~~

e) a selector connected between said third USB connector and said another conversion circuit ~~for multiplexing said USB signal between said another conversion circuit and said third expansion connector and responsive to another status signal that indicates whether said third expansion connector is connected to said second expansion connector.~~

14. (New) The USB interface according to claim 8, wherein said second USB interface comprises:

a second USB connector for receiving the USB signal from the electrical/electronic product;

a second single conversion circuit to convert the USB signal into a second external interface signal that is transmitted to a second general peripheral device,

a second selector connected between said second USB connector and said second conversion circuit and responsive to a second status signal;

a second external interface connector for transmitting the second external interface signal to the second general peripheral device, and

a second expansion connector for directly connecting to the at least one expansion connector of said USB interface.

15. (New) The USB interface according to claim 8, wherein said second USB interface comprises:

a second expansion connector for directly connecting to the at least one expansion connector of said USB interface;

a second external interface connector for transmitting and receiving USB signals to/from a USB peripheral device; and

a hub to transmit and receive USB signals to/from said second external interface connector and to/from said second expansion connector for feeding USB signals to said USB peripheral device and to said conversion circuit of said USB interface respectively.

16. (New) A separate type Universal Serial Bus (USB) unit, comprising:

a USB connector for transmitting USB signals to an electrical/electronic device and for receiving USB signals from said electrical/electronic device;

an external interface connector for transmitting external interface signals to a peripheral device and for receiving external interface signals from said peripheral device;

an expansion connector for transmitting USB signals to a second separate type USB unit and for receiving USB signals from said second separate type USB unit when said expansion connector is connected to said second separate type USB unit;

a conversion circuit for converting USB signals into external interface signals and for converting external interface signals into USB signals, said conversion circuit connected to receive external interface signals from said external interface connector and to transmit external interface signals to said external interface connector, said conversion circuit connected to receive USB signals from said expansion connector and to transmit USB signals to said expansion connector; and

a selector, said selector connected to receive USB signals from said USB connector and to transmit USB signals to said USB connector, said selector connected to receive USB signals from said expansion connector and to transmit USB signals to said expansion connector, said selector connected to receive USB signals from said conversion circuit and to transmit USB signals to said conversion circuit, said selector connected to receive a status signal that indicates whether said expansion connector is connected to said second separate type USB unit;

wherein said selector is configured such that when said status signal indicates that said expansion connector is not connected to said second separate type USB unit, said selector transmits USB signals received from said USB connector to said conversion circuit and transmits USB signals received from said conversion circuit to said USB connector; and

wherein said selector is configured such that when said status signal indicates that said expansion connector is connected to said second separate type USB unit, said selector transmits USB signals received from said USB connector to said expansion connector and transmits USB signals received from said expansion connector to said USB connector and does not transmit USB signals received from said USB connector directly to said conversion circuit.